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**APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING ENDOSCOPE-INSERTING FLEXIBLE TUBE AND
ENDOSCOPE PRODUCTION SYSTEM**

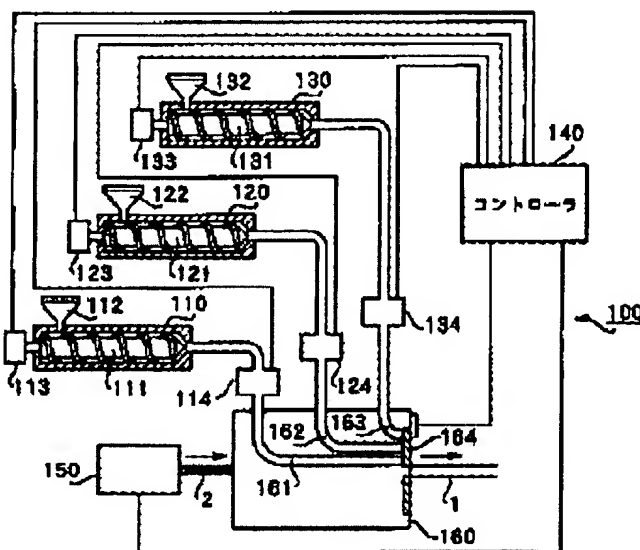
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Abstract of JP2003145611

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide an endoscope which can produce kinds of endoscope inserting flexible tubes having different degrees of flexural rigidity by using one extrusion molding machine without stopping the operation of the machine.

SOLUTION: The skin tube of the endoscope-inserting flexible tube is produced by a multi-layer tube extrusion molding machine capable of the co-extrusion molding of a laminated tube in which kinds of resin materials having different elastic moduli are laminated. The extrusion molding machine has a die which can change the thickness of each layer of the skin tube even when the extrusion molding machine is operated, a tank for temporarily holding a resin discharged from the screw part of the molding machine, a resin discharge means for feeding the resin from the tank toward the die, and a flow rate adjustment means which can adjust the flow rate of the resin supplied toward the die by the resin discharge means.



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